

Book and Tract Work.

WHAT ONE BOY IS DOING.

Tells J. DeApery is only a boy, but he is doing a man's work with a woman's heart. He lives in New York city and publishes a monthly paper called: "The Sunny Hour." I presume this paper with a boy editor has more great writers than any paper published. Kings, Queens, Popes, Dukes, Doctor's of Law and Medicine, and men and women in all sections of the country and in the higher walks of life, contribute to this paper. The young editor devotes his life to the poor boys and girls of New York. He buys them boots and shoes, and he receives help from those who are in sympathy with, and are able to help him. He is not the only boy at work. I noticed recently in The Temple Builder, a letter from a boy asking for a line of tracts he could scatter. Let us put our boys to work, the time is coming when we must step aside, and if the boys are trained now, the work will go on even though the workers die.

ONE BOY RUNS FOR ANOTHER.

"A few days ago I was passing through a pretty, shady street, where some boys were playing at base ball. Among their number was a little lame fellow, seemingly about twelve years old—a pale, sickly-looking child, supported on two crutches, and who evidently found much difficulty in walking, even with such assistance.

The lame boy wished to join the game, for he did not seem to see how much his infirmity would be in his own way, and how much it would hinder the progress of such an active sport as base ball.

His companions, very good naturedly, tried to persuade him to stand at one side and let another take his place; and I was glad to notice that none of them hinted that he would be in the way, but that they all objected for fear he would hurt himself.

"Why, Jimmy, said one, "you can't run, you know."

"Oh, hush!" said another—the tallest in the party; "never mind, I'll run for him," and he took his place by Jimmy's side, prepared to act. "If you were like him," he said, aside to the other boys, "you wouldn't want to be told of it all the time."

As I passed on I thought to myself that there was a true gentleman."

THE POINT NOT HARD TO SEE.

One Christian can run for another. In this work, a substitute is allowed. You have the money, others have the tracts. Your money can scatter their tracts, see. You, in this way can visit the poor, the

sick and the troubled, comfort the dying and sustain the living. We are so related that one must use the other, if we would accomplish the object for which Christ died. The idea of helpfulness on the part of the church is beautifully brought out in the following:

THE CHURCH GOD'S WIFE.

One cold wintry afternoon, a lady was being driven along the leading thoroughfare of one of our great cities, and she happened to notice a thinly-clad, bare-footed boy in front of a window of a boot shop. She signaled to her coachman to pull up the horses alighted from her carriage, went to the child, and asked him what he was doing.

"If you please, mum," he said, "I was askin' God to give me a pair of boots."

She led the youngster into the shop, obtained soap, water and towel, and with her jewelled hands washed and dried his legs and feet. In a few minutes she had fitted on a pair of nice warm stockings and a pair of boots. The child was asking for a pair of boots from God when the lady first spoke to him, and he looked up with grateful, wondering eyes into her face and said, "If you please, mum, are you God's wife?" Poor bairn, he had sense enough to discern the sign of divine relationship. That's what the world wants to see. The church, God's wife. "I have married thee," saith the Lord to Israel.

THE SERPENTS' FANGS.

If the church fails to do her work, the side of evil will not fail to ruin, it and one way is through impure literature. Canon Wilberforce, in his work says, "In such books there are serpents' fangs." We read of one who in India took down from his shelf a book, feeling at the same moment a slight prick in his finger which he attributed to a pin; symptoms of poison rapidly appeared, and he was shortly a corpse. A deadly serpent had been concealed amongst the books, and had stuck its fangs into his finger. There are books that sting to the death. Many a ruined life and broken heart has owed its destruction to literary poison. Courvoisier attributed his assassination of Lord William Russell to a state of morbid sympathy with crime induced by reading the popular romance—. And many a girl has fallen an easy prey to the seducer from inflated notions, sentimental ideas and poisonous thoughts, instilled into her mind through novels, fenilletons, and suggestive poetry. Thus far, at least, may we fairly look to the instinct of self-protection in society to check corruption, resist injustice, spread information and generally to elevate the moral standard.

JOHN DUKE MCFADEN.

The Sunday-School.

THE AGONY IN GETHSEMANE.

BY THE EDITOR.

The Sabbath-school lesson for May 5, is taken from Mark 14 : 32-42. Jesus and the apostles left the upper room where the ordinances of God's house were instituted, crossed the Kidron valley, and reached Gethsemane about midnight. Parallel passages and accounts from the departure from the upper room to the end of the agony in Gethsemane, are found in Mark 26 : 39-42 ; Luke 22 : 39-46.

LESSONS FROM GETHSEMANE.

1. One of the first lessons we learn is that Jesus, as he was about to enter his great sorrow, *prayed*. Turn back over the record and note that Jesus inaugurated every great movement with prayer. He lived in communion with the Father, and especially on this night of sorrow, he lays the great burden of his heart on the bosom of infinite love. He *prayed* in the garden, prayed earnestly, and *then* and *there* he gained the victory. Through all his long experience of suffering that night and next day, he was at perfect peace, because he won the victory in prayer in the garden. Let us imitate that sweet and beautiful life, and in every time of trouble, take our burdens to the Lord in prayer.

2. Christ wanted his friends to watch with him. So it is now. We all need to watch against temptation. Each day's life is full of temptations for us and we need to pray for strength to overcome them. Evil thoughts knock at the door of our hearts. Temptations to speak words that are not true, or words that are unkind, or words that are profane. Our morning prayer should therefore, be a committing of ourselves to God's keeping for the day as we go out into the unseen life. We need ever to remember the instruction of the Master: "Pray that ye enter not into temptation." We must all meet life's deepest experiences alone. Companionship is only external. In the real, inward struggle, there can be but one present—he, the Christ of God.

3. There is a time when duties of love must be performed. If we sleep we may as well sleep on, for we can do nothing when the need is past. The opportunity is lost, and the work is not done. This should be a powerful motive to watchfulness.

FIND IN THIS LESSON :

1. What to do in time of sorrow.
2. Two things Jesus wants us to do.
3. The spirit of true prayer.
4. One thing we should not do.